



PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

(Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health)

CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY · COLINDALE AVENUE · LONDON · N.W.9

Cables: DEFENDER, NORPHONE, LONDON

Spicer

Feb 25th.

Dear Josh & Esther,

I have passed on your request for sera to Pat Bradstreet as I am no longer working in the Standards Lab.. If you want any more in the future just write her and she will send it ~~me~~ to you. They will probably be cutting down on the more recondite antigens as they do not have the time to do all the necessary absorptions now that there is so much virus work to be done.

Apart from the fact that dead silence broods over the National Institutes signs are that I should manage to get over there next September for about six months as a visiting scientist. However I wrote to them some time ago about something else but have had no reply in spite of a reminder so I fear they may have forgotten my existence. In the meantime I have been asked to go to Ceylon by WHO to advise on the tuberculosis control program there from a statistical point of view, and I hope to be over there for a month or two in the summer. I would like to go for longer but have too much to clear up here before I leave.

My next job will be at the Royal College of Surgeons down in London which will involve an unpleasant journey every day but is otherwise quite a good place to work. What I am going to do is very much up to me but almost any aspect of the epidemiology of cancer will be within my province. I am reading the genetical literature in search of good problem in that line, besides hoping to think of something useful in a more strictly clinical direction. I have to do all routine statistical work for members of the institute but I am busy thinking about getting this done on the English Electric computer round the corner which will be very convenient once I have got out the necessary programs.

I shall be very sorry to be out of microbiology as both the work and the colleagues are very congenial, but there are no openings here and I can't trust myself to a future of pure research in Bill Hayes's unit as I don't seem to have any talent for that kind of thing.

Bruce and family seem to be all well. Andy is still playing about with fluorescent microscopy and now has an impressive collection of <sup>16</sup>mm colour slides. His working on this has the useful side effect that the lab now has facilities for us to develop our private colour films. Ekta chrome is very easy to develop given good water bath and all the necessary chemicals.

I hope I shall manage to see you both next year. As usual please excuse typing.

Yours, Clive.